

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) [[Face]] A face detection apparatus generating an output ~~indicative of the indicating a likelihood of a region test regions of a test an~~ image containing a face, the apparatus comprising:

~~means operable to compare a test for comparing the region with face data indicative of the that indicates a presence of [[a]] the face in such a way as to detect plural and for detecting respective likelihood values indicative of indicating the likelihood of the [[test]] region containing [[a]] the face [[of]] in a group of respective different face sizes; and~~

~~control means, responsive to metadata associated with the image defining one of a set of predetermined classifications of the image, for modifying at least one of the group and/or and the likelihood values in dependence upon based on a face size or a range of face sizes appropriate to [[the]] at least one classification of that the image, the means for modifying being responsive to metadata associated with the image defining the at least one classification of the image, the image being a part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.~~

2. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus according to claim 1, [[in]] ~~wherein the control means is operable to weight for comparing weighs the likelihood values [[so as]] to enhance the detected likelihood of [[a]] the face [[of]] in a face size appropriate to the at least one classification of [[that]] the image.~~

3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~in which~~
~~wherein the control means for modifying is operable to select selects~~ a subset of the group of
different face sizes for detecting the likelihood values testing of the test region, and the subset
~~being is dependent upon [[a]] the~~ face size or ~~the range of face sizes appropriate to the at least~~
~~one classification of [[that]] the~~ image.

4. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims claim 1, further comprising:~~

~~means for detecting whether the likelihood value indicative of the a greatest one of the~~
likelihood values exceeds a threshold likelihood value.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims claim 1, in which wherein the comparing means is operable: to derive a set~~
~~of for comparing derives attributes from respective blocks of the region, compares; to~~
~~compare the derived attributes with attributes that indicate indicative of the presence of [[a]]~~
~~the face[[;]], and derives to derive a probability of the presence of [[a]] the face by a~~
~~similarity between the derived attributes and the attributes indicative of that indicate the~~
presence of [[a]] the face.

7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus The apparatus according to claim 6, in which wherein the attributes that indicate the presence of the face comprise [[the]] projections of image areas onto one or more image eigenblocks.

8. (Currently Amended) Video A video conferencing apparatus, comprising the apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) Surveillance A surveillance apparatus comprising the apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) Display A display apparatus, comprising:
a display screen;
a video camera; and
the apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims; claim 1, wherein the video camera and the face detection apparatus being are arranged with respect [[ot]] to the display screen [[so as]] to detect faces of those looking at the display screen.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of face detection apparatus for generating an output indicative of the indicating a likelihood of test regions a region of a test an image containing a face, the method comprising the steps of:
comparing a test the region with face data indicative of the that indicates a presence of [[a]] the face in such a way as to detect plural respective likelihood value indicative of values

indicating the likelihood of the [[test]] region containing [[a]] the face [[of]] in a group of respective different face sizes; and

modifying at least one of the group and the likelihood values based on a face size or a range of face sizes appropriate to at least one classification of the image, in response to metadata associated with the image defining that defines the at least one of a set of predetermined classifications classification of the image, modifying the group and/or the likelihood values in dependence upon a face size or range of face sizes appropriate to the classification of that wherein the image is part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium, according to claim 13, the medium being a storage medium including computer executable instructions, wherein the instructions when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

comparing a region with face data that indicates a presence of a face to detect likelihood values indicating a likelihood of the region containing the face in a group of respective different face sizes; and

modifying at least one of the group and the likelihood values based on a face size or a range of face sizes appropriate to at least one classification of an image, in response to metadata associated with the image that defines the at least one classification of the image,

wherein the image is part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) [[Face]] A face detection apparatus generating an output indicative of the indicating a likelihood of test regions a region of a test an image containing a face, the apparatus comprising:

a comparator configured to compare a test the region with face data indicative of the that indicates a presence of [[a]] the face in such a way as and to detect plural respective likelihood values indicative of indicating the likelihood of the [[test]] region containing [[a]] the face [[of]] in a group of respective different face sizes; and

a controller, responsive to metadata associated with the image defining one of a set of predetermined classifications of the image, configured to modify at least one of the group and/or and the likelihood values in dependence upon based on a face size or a range of face sizes appropriate to [[the]] at least one classification of [[that]] the image, the controller is responsive to metadata associated with the image that define the at least one classification of the image, the image being part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.